

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of:)
Das)
Serial No. (TO BE ASSIGNED)) Art Unit 3731
Filed: CONCURRENTLY HEREWITH) Atty. Docket 16848.11.11
For: SEPTAL DEFECT)
CLOSURE DEVICE)

10612 U.S. PTO
09/27/92
03/18/99

*SENT VIA EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE
MAILING LABEL NO. EL199280981US*

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of disclosure, enclosed is a completed Form PTO-1449. Consideration of each of the listed references by the Examiner is respectfully requested. Copies of the references listed thereon are all of record in Application No. 08/756,776 filed 26 November 1996, Application No. 08/284,766 filed 2 August 1994, Application No. 08/062,095 filed 14 May 1993, and/or Application No. 07/822,951 filed 21 January 1992, from each of which the present application derives priority under 35 USC § 120. In accordance with 37 CFR §198(d), applicant is not enclosing additional copies of these references. Applicant also respectfully requests that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 indicating such consideration be returned with the next Official Action, as set forth in MPEP 609.

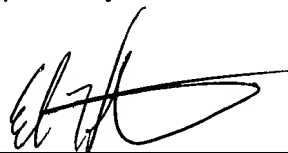
Regarding East German Patent No. DD 233 303, applicant does not have a translation, but a copy of a Derwent Abstract of this publication is enclosed herewith. Regarding the French patent publication, applicant does not have a translation, but U.S. Patent 5,192,301 (Kamiya, a copy of which is enclosed) claims priority to the same Japanese parent application and appears to be an English-language counterpart.

Applicant does not have a translation of DE 28 22 603, but a copy of a Derwent Abstract of this publication is enclosed herewith.

By submitting these references, Applicant does not admit that the references are prior art to or material to this application, and reserves the right to establish that any reference is not prior art. Applicant does not represent that the references have been reviewed in detail; there may be details in the references of which Applicant is unaware.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 18 Mar 99



Edward S. Hotchkiss
Reg. No. 33,904
FREDRIKSON & BYRON, P.A
1100 International Centre
900 Second Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55402-3397
(612) 347-7144